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HIGHLIGHTS OF RICHMOND-PETERSBURG, VA NATIONAL COMPENSATION SURVEY SEPTEMBER 2000

Workers in the Richmond-Petersburg metropolitan area averaged \$16.91 per hour during September 2000, according to a new survey released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Regional Commissioner Sheila Watkins reported that white-collar workers averaged \$20.07 per hour and accounted for 53 percent of the workers in the area. Blue-collar employees averaged \$15.57 per hour and represented 28 percent of the workforce, while the remaining 19 percent worked in service occupations and earned \$9.97 per hour. (See table 1.)

The National Compensation Survey (NCS) presents straight-time earnings for occupations in establishments employing 50 or more workers in private industry and State and local governments. The survey excludes agricultural establishments, private households, the self-employed, and the Federal Government. This NCS covered 181 firms representing 240,200 workers in the Richmond-Petersburg metropolitan area, which includes the cities of Colonial Heights, Hopewell, Petersburg, and Richmond; and the counties of Charles City, Chesterfield, Dinwiddie, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, New Kent, Powhatan, and Prince George in Virginia. Seventy percent of those represented worked in private industry.

In the Richmond-Petersburg metropolitan area, average hourly wages were published for nearly 60 detailed occupations. (See table 1.) Among white-collar workers, computer systems analysts and scientists averaged \$29.81 per hour; registered nurses, \$20.05; and secretaries, \$14.12. Blue-collar occupations included printing press operators earning \$16.34 per hour, truck drivers at \$12.98, and stock handlers and baggers at \$10.73. In the service occupations, cooks averaged \$10.09 per hour; janitors and cleaners, \$8.77; and nursing aides, orderlies and attendants, \$8.03.

The NCS also provides broad coverage of selected occupational characteristics. (See tables 2 and 3.) For example, full-time employees in the Richmond-Petersburg area averaged \$17.79 per hour and part-timers earned \$9.41. Union workers in blue-collar jobs averaged \$18.38 per hour, while their nonunion counterparts made \$14.06. Private industry workers at establishments employing 50-99 workers averaged \$16.02 per hour and those in establishments with 500 or more employees earned \$19.77.

The NCS is part of a statistical program that will eventually integrate three separate surveys of wages and benefits into one comprehensive compensation program increasing the amount of data available. Data provided by the NCS may be used by businesses for establishing pay plans, making decisions concerning plant relocation, and in collective bargaining negotiations. Individuals may use such data to help choose potential careers. Average rates of pay are also available for levels of work within an occupation based on knowledge, skill, independent judgment, supervision received and other factors required on the job.

Survey Availability

Complete survey results are contained in the Richmond-Petersburg, VA National Compensation Survey September 2000 (Bulletin 3105-61). While supplies last, single copies of the bulletin are available from the Philadelphia Information Office by calling (215) 597-3282. In addition, data contained in the bulletin are available on the Internet in both text and PDF formats at <http://www.bls.gov/comhome.htm>. Select survey tables can also be obtained from the Bureau's fax-on-demand service in Philadelphia by dialing (215) 597-4153 and requesting documents 9815, 9816, 9817, 9818, and 9819.

For personal assistance or further information on the National Compensation Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Philadelphia Information Office at (215) 597-3282 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. ET.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Richmond-Petersburg, VA, September 2000

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
All	\$16.91	3.3	\$16.67	4.2	\$17.49	5.4
All excluding sales	16.92	3.3	16.65	4.2	17.50	5.4
White collar	20.07	4.3	20.81	5.5	18.92	6.4
White collar excluding sales	20.58	4.2	21.94	5.2	18.93	6.4
Professional specialty and technical	24.46	4.7	26.74	4.9	22.61	7.1
Professional specialty	26.08	4.5	29.70	4.1	23.74	6.7
Engineers, architects, and surveyors	28.57	8.1	31.88	3.5	—	—
Mathematical and computer scientists	29.83	10.9	32.87	4.8	—	—
Computer systems analysts and scientists	29.81	11.0	32.91	4.9	—	—
Natural scientists	21.17	6.5	—	—	—	—
Health related	22.13	4.1	22.25	5.4	21.83	4.8
Registered nurses	20.05	4.3	20.11	5.6	—	—
Teachers, college and university	—	—	—	—	—	—
Teachers, except college and university	23.36	1.6	20.87	5.3	23.45	1.7
Elementary school teachers	23.98	3.2	—	—	24.17	3.4
Secondary school teachers	22.39	.8	—	—	22.34	.7
Librarians, archivists, and curators	22.69	5.9	—	—	22.69	5.9
Librarians	22.69	5.9	—	—	22.69	5.9
Social scientists and urban planners	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social, recreation, and religious workers	16.96	7.0	—	—	16.28	7.5
Social workers	16.28	7.5	—	—	16.28	7.5
Lawyers and judges	—	—	—	—	—	—
Writers, authors, entertainers, athletes, and professionals, n.e.c.	22.18	12.4	22.18	12.4	—	—
Technical	18.24	8.4	19.99	8.7	14.81	3.6
Licensed practical nurses	14.76	3.0	14.93	3.3	—	—
Health technologists and technicians, n.e.c.	12.69	8.3	12.34	8.7	—	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	27.91	5.1	28.36	5.9	25.82	6.1
Executives, administrators, and managers	31.76	7.3	32.05	8.5	30.21	7.4
Administrators and officials, public administration	31.35	9.3	—	—	32.71	8.7
Financial managers	31.77	12.0	31.77	12.0	—	—
Managers and administrators, n.e.c.	32.34	15.9	33.17	16.1	—	—
Management related	23.19	7.8	23.58	9.5	21.62	6.7
Accountants and auditors	21.49	5.6	21.89	5.6	21.09	9.5
Other financial officers	21.96	13.2	—	—	—	—
Personnel, training, and labor relations specialists	27.92	22.4	28.24	22.6	—	—
Management related, n.e.c.	21.62	7.2	21.70	7.3	—	—
Sales	16.76	12.5	16.78	12.6	—	—
Supervisors, sales	21.01	11.0	21.01	11.0	—	—
Cashiers	7.40	5.1	7.33	5.1	—	—
Administrative support, including clerical	12.86	3.0	13.17	4.1	12.48	4.3
Secretaries	14.12	3.7	15.22	6.5	13.81	4.5
Receptionists	10.08	4.8	10.08	4.8	—	—
Order clerks	14.74	14.3	14.74	14.3	—	—
Records clerks, n.e.c.	10.22	3.9	—	—	—	—
Bookkeepers, accounting and auditing clerks	12.75	4.4	11.92	5.4	—	—
Traffic, shipping and receiving clerks	10.56	9.6	10.56	9.6	—	—
Stock and inventory clerks	9.99	3.2	—	—	—	—
Insurance adjusters, examiners, and investigators	19.11	16.1	19.11	16.1	—	—
Investigators and adjusters, except insurance	13.42	6.8	12.97	7.9	—	—
General office clerks	11.10	6.6	11.88	12.2	10.33	1.8
Teachers' aides	10.80	8.0	—	—	10.81	8.3
Administrative support, n.e.c.	13.61	5.7	16.17	4.3	12.22	7.0
Blue collar	15.57	2.9	15.48	3.0	16.42	8.2
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.40	3.4	18.46	3.7	18.09	8.5
Automobile mechanics	20.75	6.3	20.78	6.4	—	—
Bus, truck, and stationary engine mechanics	16.24	3.6	16.30	3.6	—	—

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Mean hourly earnings,¹ all workers:² Selected occupations, private industry and State and local government, National Compensation Survey, Richmond-Petersburg, VA, September 2000 — Continued

Occupation ³	Total		Private industry		State and local government	
	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)	Mean	Relative error ⁴ (percent)
Blue collar —Continued						
Precision production, craft, and repair —Continued						
Industrial machinery repairers	\$22.72	7.9	\$22.72	7.9	—	—
Mechanics and repairers, n.e.c.	16.40	13.2	16.28	15.9	—	—
Supervisors, production	28.42	8.9	28.42	8.9	—	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	15.34	4.6	15.34	4.6	—	—
Printing press operators	16.34	4.5	16.34	4.5	—	—
Packaging and filling machine operators	14.99	22.1	14.99	22.1	—	—
Slicing and cutting machine operators	14.24	2.4	14.24	2.4	—	—
Miscellaneous machine operators, n.e.c.	19.19	5.4	19.19	5.4	—	—
Production inspectors, checkers and examiners ..	17.75	12.9	17.75	12.9	—	—
Transportation and material moving	13.62	5.1	13.79	5.4	\$11.85	5.5
Truck drivers	12.98	6.8	13.02	7.5	—	—
Bus drivers	14.42	11.5	—	—	—	—
Industrial truck and tractor equipment operators ..	15.60	8.1	15.60	8.1	—	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	11.75	5.5	11.72	5.9	12.16	8.4
Supervisors, handlers, equipment cleaners, and laborers, n.e.c.	16.30	10.6	—	—	—	—
Production helpers	12.98	5.5	12.98	5.5	—	—
Stock handlers and baggers	10.73	14.3	10.73	14.3	—	—
Freight, stock, and material handlers, n.e.c.	11.52	14.1	11.52	14.1	—	—
Vehicle washers and equipment cleaners	11.00	21.2	11.00	21.2	—	—
Hand packers and packagers	9.95	10.0	9.95	10.0	—	—
Laborers, except construction, n.e.c.	11.33	6.5	11.15	7.0	—	—
Service	9.97	4.1	8.29	3.6	13.22	6.1
Protective service	13.47	8.3	9.02	9.6	16.41	7.6
Police and detectives, public service	17.08	3.6	—	—	17.08	3.6
Guards and police, except public service	8.91	9.8	8.93	9.8	—	—
Food service	7.80	6.5	7.59	6.7	—	—
Waiters, waitresses, and bartenders	5.52	15.2	5.52	15.2	—	—
Waiters and waitresses	5.49	18.2	5.49	18.2	—	—
Other food service	9.17	7.6	8.98	8.0	—	—
Cooks	10.09	14.4	10.11	15.1	—	—
Kitchen workers, food preparation	8.55	6.6	8.55	6.6	—	—
Food preparation, n.e.c.	7.58	9.1	7.46	11.0	—	—
Health service	8.39	5.3	8.38	5.5	—	—
Health aides, except nursing	10.26	6.7	10.26	6.7	—	—
Nursing aides, orderlies and attendants	8.03	5.1	7.99	5.3	—	—
Cleaning and building service	8.99	4.3	9.06	5.5	8.82	6.5
Maids and housemen	7.31	3.6	7.31	3.6	—	—
Janitors and cleaners	8.77	3.9	8.72	4.5	8.82	6.5
Personal service	10.14	11.0	7.17	13.9	—	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² All workers include full-time and part-time workers.

³ A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around

a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria, and n.e.c. means not elsewhere classified. Overall occupational groups may include data for categories not shown separately. IN THIS SURVEY, THE NONRESPONSE RATE FOR ALL INDUSTRIES AND PRIVATE INDUSTRY EXCEEDED REGULAR SURVEY STANDARDS FOR PUBLICATION. ACCORDINGLY, USERS SHOULD INTERPRET THESE RESULTS WITH THIS LIMITATION IN MIND.

Table 2. **Selected worker characteristics: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² National Compensation Survey, Richmond-Petersburg, VA, September 2000**

Occupational group	Private industry and State and local government					
	Full-time workers ³	Part-time workers ³	Union ⁴	Nonunion ⁴	Time ⁵	Incentive ⁵
	Mean					
All occupations	\$17.79	\$9.41	\$18.40	\$16.71	\$16.85	\$20.49
All excluding sales	17.69	9.75	18.40	16.70	16.89	22.33
White collar	21.03	11.58	18.64	20.12	20.06	20.40
White-collar excluding sales	21.27	13.17	18.64	20.66	20.56	—
Professional specialty and technical	24.80	19.91	25.20	24.45	24.44	—
Professional specialty	26.48	21.02	—	26.06	26.06	—
Technical	18.48	13.67	—	18.06	18.24	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	27.91	—	—	27.95	27.91	—
Sales	19.24	7.35	—	16.76	16.13	19.73
Administrative support, including clerical	13.44	9.32	17.26	12.44	12.86	—
Blue collar	15.91	7.38	18.38	14.06	15.47	—
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.40	—	21.14	17.18	18.27	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	15.34	—	17.90	12.64	15.34	—
Transportation and material moving	13.79	10.35	16.11	12.31	13.46	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	12.67	6.76	14.99	10.74	11.75	—
Service	10.76	7.03	—	9.96	9.97	—
	Relative error ⁶ (percent)					
All occupations	3.4	9.0	3.2	3.8	3.4	9.8
All excluding sales	3.4	9.8	3.2	3.8	3.3	10.1
White collar	4.2	11.5	3.6	4.4	4.3	12.2
White-collar excluding sales	4.2	12.4	3.6	4.3	4.2	—
Professional specialty and technical	4.8	6.2	7.8	4.7	4.7	—
Professional specialty	4.6	5.8	—	4.5	4.5	—
Technical	8.8	10.0	—	8.7	8.4	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	5.1	—	—	5.1	5.1	—
Sales	12.8	3.0	—	12.5	15.1	13.2
Administrative support, including clerical	2.9	8.9	2.9	3.2	3.0	—
Blue collar	2.9	4.5	3.7	3.8	2.9	—
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.4	—	3.8	4.3	3.5	—
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	4.6	—	5.1	6.2	4.6	—
Transportation and material moving	5.2	10.1	6.3	5.3	5.1	—
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	5.9	2.9	7.7	6.9	5.5	—
Service	4.4	4.6	—	4.1	4.1	—

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Employees are classified as working either a full-time or a part-time schedule based on the definition used by each establishment. Therefore, a worker with a 35-hour-per-week schedule might be considered a full-time employee in one establishment, but classified as part-time in another firm, where a 40-hour week is the minimum full-time schedule.

⁴ Union workers are those whose wages are determined through collective bargaining.

⁵ Time workers' wages are based solely on an hourly rate or salary; incentive workers are those whose wages are at least partially based on productivity payments such as piece rates, commissions, and production bonuses.

⁶ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

NOTE: Dashes indicate that no data were reported or that data did not meet publication criteria. IN THIS SURVEY, THE NONRESPONSE RATE FOR ALL INDUSTRIES AND PRIVATE INDUSTRY EXCEEDED REGULAR SURVEY STANDARDS FOR PUBLICATION. ACCORDINGLY, USERS SHOULD INTERPRET THESE RESULTS WITH THIS LIMITATION IN MIND.

Table 3. **Establishment employment size: Mean hourly earnings¹ by occupational group,² private industry, National Compensation Survey, Richmond-Petersburg, VA, September 2000**

Occupational group	Full-time and part-time workers				
	All private industry workers	50 - 99 workers ³	100 workers or more		
			Total	100 - 499 workers	500 workers or more
	Mean				
All occupations	\$16.67	\$16.02	\$16.84	\$15.86	\$19.77
All excluding sales	16.65	15.70	16.89	15.80	19.80
White collar	20.81	21.30	20.67	20.20	22.23
White-collar excluding sales	21.94	22.71	21.75	21.51	22.37
Professional specialty and technical	26.74	30.54	26.38	24.68	34.08
Professional specialty	29.70	32.45	29.36	27.71	35.48
Technical	19.99	—	20.11	19.04	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	28.36	26.88	29.31	29.53	28.77
Sales	16.78	17.93	16.29	16.29	—
Administrative support, including clerical	13.17	13.71	13.05	12.48	13.96
Blue collar	15.48	12.55	16.17	14.87	18.41
Precision production, craft, and repair	18.46	15.66	19.22	18.37	21.00
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	15.34	12.12	15.82	12.81	18.17
Transportation and material moving	13.79	11.31	14.11	13.16	17.50
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	11.72	9.03	12.73	12.26	14.03
Service	8.29	8.31	8.29	8.08	12.14
	Relative error ⁴ (percent)				
All occupations	4.2	11.0	4.7	6.3	5.0
All excluding sales	4.2	12.9	4.4	6.0	5.0
White collar	5.5	11.4	6.3	8.0	8.2
White-collar excluding sales	5.2	12.8	5.5	7.0	8.3
Professional specialty and technical	4.9	18.2	4.9	6.6	4.6
Professional specialty	4.1	16.2	3.8	4.9	5.0
Technical	8.7	—	8.9	9.8	—
Executive, administrative, and managerial	5.9	5.0	8.8	10.8	15.0
Sales	12.6	15.3	18.4	18.9	—
Administrative support, including clerical	4.1	5.5	5.1	7.6	5.7
Blue collar	3.0	5.2	3.4	4.5	4.9
Precision production, craft, and repair	3.7	5.8	4.3	4.4	8.5
Machine operators, assemblers, and inspectors	4.6	9.0	5.0	5.3	5.8
Transportation and material moving	5.4	9.6	6.0	6.6	6.7
Handlers, equipment cleaners, helpers, and laborers	5.9	6.6	6.9	8.5	11.0
Service	3.6	9.1	3.7	3.3	16.6

¹ Earnings are the straight-time hourly wages or salaries paid to employees. They include incentive pay, cost-of-living adjustments, and hazard pay. Excluded are premium pay for overtime, vacations, holidays, nonproduction bonuses, and tips. The mean is computed by totaling the pay of all workers and dividing by the number of workers, weighted by hours.

² A classification system including about 480 individual occupations is used to cover all workers in the civilian economy.

³ Establishments classified with 50-99 workers may contain establishments with fewer than 50 due to staff reductions between survey sampling and collection.

⁴ The relative standard error (RSE) is the standard error expressed as a percent of the estimate. It can be used to calculate a "confidence interval" around a sample estimate.

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